

Message Text

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PM/ISP:DANDERSON
EUR/RPM:WTROBINSON
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
USDELMC NATO
USNMR SHAPE
CINCLANT
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USCINCEUR
XMT AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DOD POLICY ON STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY
OF EQUIPMENT WITHIN NATO

1. ON 11 MARCH, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PUBLISHED DOD
DIRECTIVE 2010.6, WHICH ESTABLISHES POLICY AND ASSIGNS
TASKS TO DOD COMPONENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION OF
NATO STANDARDIZED/INTEROPERABLE EQUIPMENT (MG BOWMAN LEFT
A COPY WITH US NATO ON 25 MARCH). WE EXPECT THIS NEW DOD
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DIRECTIVE TO PROVIDE A GREATLY IMPROVED POLICY AND
ORGANIZATIONAL BASIS FOR US COOPERATION WITH ALLIES IN
SEEKING GREATER ALLIANCE COOPERATION.

2. REQUEST YOU CIRCULATE COPIES OF DIRECTIVE AND CALL
ATTENTION TO KEY POLICY PROVISIONS AT NEXT APPROPRIATE
MEETING OF THE NAC IN PERMANENT SESSION. IN SECTION IV,

QTE POLICY, UNQTE POINTS FOR EMPHASIS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

A. DOD COMPONENTS ARE DIRECTED TO INCLUDE NATO STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY AS FUNDAMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS FOR BOTH MAJOR AND MINOR EQUIPMENT ITEMS.

B. U.S. MILITARY SERVICES AND OTHER DOD AGENCIES WILL CONSIDER ALLIES' SYSTEMS AND DERIVATIVES AT AN EARLY POINT IN THE DEVELOPMENT CYCLE, WEIGHING THE EFFECT OF STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY ON OVERALL ALLIANCE COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS, NOT JUST ITS IMPACT ON U.S. FORCES. (PARA V E REQUIRES THE MILITARY SERVICES TO GIVE APPROPRIATE WEIGHTING TO STANDARDIZATION/INTEROPERABILITY IN THE SOURCE SELECTION PROCESS TO INCLUDE SYSTEMS AND DERIVATIVES OF NATO ALLIES IN THEIR COST AND OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSES.)

C. DOD WILL SEEK AGREEMENT WITH ITS ALLIES ON MILITARY OPERATIONAL NEEDS, NEW WEAPON SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS AND SCHEDULES FOR NEW WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION. (PARA V B PROVIDES FURTHER DETAIL REQUIRING THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING TO CONSIDER SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS TO ACCOMMODATE POSSIBLE CO-TESTING AND CO-DEVELOPMENT WITH NATO ALLIES AND TO PROVIDE NATO ALLIES APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN DEVELOPING OR PRODUCING NEW U.S. SYSTEMS.)

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D. DOD WILL WORK FOR MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL LICENSING AGREEMENTS WITH NATO ALLIES TO ACHIEVE STANDARDIZATION. (IN PARA V E THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENCOURAGING EARLY CONTACTS WITH NATO ALLIES DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS TO CONSIDER RECIPROCAL AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL EXCHANGE OF TECHNOLOGY, COOPERATIVE OR INTERDEPENDENT R AND D PROGRAMS AND APPROPRIATE LICENSED PRODUCTION ARRANGEMENTS TO PERMIT POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF EACH OTHER'S SYSTEMS.)

E. DOD WILL WORK TO ESTABLISH NATO CONFIGURATION CONTROL GROUPS FOR NEW WEAPON SYSTEMS TO BE USED BY BOTH THE US AND OTHER ALLIES IN EUROPE. (THIS TYPE OF GROUP IS WORKING WELL FOR THE ROLAND SYSTEM WHICH THE US IS LICENSING FROM THE EUROPEANS.) WE HOPE TO AVOID CASES WHERE WE ADOPT THE SAME SYSTEM BUT EACH COUNTRY MAKES MODIFICATIONS OF THE TYPE WHICH PREVENT INTEROPERABILITY. WE ARE DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE INTEROPERABILITY WITH THE ROLAND, AND MOST OF THE FIELD REPLACEABLE PARTS WILL BE

INTERCHANGEABLE, INCLUDING THE MISSILE.

F. DOD IS AUTHORIZED TO WAIVE THE PROVISIONS OF THE BUY AMERICAN ACT WHEN PROCUREMENT OF FOREIGN DEFENSE ITEMS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASED NATO STANDARDIZATION OR INTEROPERABILITY.

3. YOU MAY INFORM ALLIES THAT WE DO NOT EXPECT THIS NEW DOD DIRECTIVE TO SOLVE ALL STANDARDIZATION PROBLEMS. WE

RECOGNIZE THAT MUCH GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC FACTORS IS NECESSARY AND THAT ALLIANCE PROCEDURES MUST BE DEVELOPED TO PROTECT THE VALID NATIONAL INTERESTS OF EACH MEMBER OF THE ALLIANCE AS WE PROCEED WITH STANDARDIZATION EFFORTS. NO ONE NATION CAN SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF ACHIEVING STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY IN NATO. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS DIRECTIVE
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WILL SET IN MOTION STRONGER EFFORTS TO REACH THESE GOALS ON THE PART OF SUBORDINATE ELEMENTS OF THE US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND CREATE A BETTER ENVIRONMENT FOR COOPERATION. FURTHER, DEVELOPMENT OF SIMILARLY COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES ON THE PART OF OTHER NATO MEMBERS COULD ADD USEFUL MOMENTUM TO STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY IN THE ALLIANCE.

4. COPIES OF DIRECTIVES HAVE BEEN PASSED TO EMBASSIES.

CHRISTOPHER

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